

Hasrat Mohani in our time!

Myth around him:

How unfortunate is that Maulana Hasrat Mohani is known only as poet for the ghazal *Chupke Chupke Raat Din Aansoon Bahana Yaad Hai* and Maulana who loves Krishna.

But in reality Maulana was a great leader, literary critic and fierce journalist apart from poet per excellence.

He was great extremist. As King Martin Luther Jr said in his [Letter from Birmingham Jail](#) . " So the question is not whether we will be extremist, but what kind of extremists we will be. Will we be extremists for hate, or will we be extremists for love? Will we be extremists for the preservation of injustice, or will we be extremists for the cause of justice?"

So Maulana was extremist for the cause of freedom of country, justice for the working class and justice & fair representation(in political set up and administrative set up) of Muslim.

Method of struggle:

I will quote Maulana own word for this topic.

"From the depth of my heart, I have taken an oath that supporting all these (freedom struggle) movement will always , and in all possible conditions be obligatory to me .If I won't be allowed to use my pen, I'll turn to the power of speech, if that too would be denied, I'll opt for action, which, as it is more useful."

On Sharjeel Imam and others:

On one presidential speech of Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar inspired and stirred the entire nation which resulted in the arrest of Ali brothers and likely to given death penalty.

So Hasrat Mohani come with a proposal:

" To read the resolution [which results arrest of Ali brothers] aloud and declare total agreement with resolution.And it should be done in the cities and villages all over the country, adopting the same resolution.

Further he said:

" In that case the British authorities will have to either arrest millions of Indians , giving death penalty to millions or would have to withdraw the case against the Ali Brothers and release them after some routine punishment."

Which resulted to force British authorities to just two years imprisonment for Ali Brothers.

With this passage of history remind us to do so with similar fashion for the [Speech of Sharjeel Imam at Aligarh](#). If we have acted like Hasrat Mohani then Sharjeel has not languished in jail for such long terms.

On oppression in Kashmir and beyond:

When the ruling authorities paid no heed to the demands of the khilafat group, Maulana in it's session on 8 July 1921 adopted a resolution and announced that according to the Muslim law, under the existing circumstances,it wasn't permissible to the Muslim to serve in the British Millitary. Also, to convince others to join the millitary was totally forbidden, that it was the duty of every Muslim,more so of the religious

scholars and leaders to inform every Muslim Muslim Militaryman of this religious verdict. This was an obvious revolt against the empire, the punishment for which according to the then prevalent law was death.

On Thanksgiving to state, administration and judiciary:

The then British viceroy in India, Lord Hardinge, had to visit Kanpur for the settlement of this dispute [Demolition of Machhli Bazar Masjid in 1913]. At the Agra Session of Muslim League (1914) as efficient and influential personality as Agha Khan suggested to propose and pass a resolution, thanking Lord Hardinge for being instrumental in the settlement of the Mosque Dispute. Maulana strongly opposed the Resolution.

On Ali Khan Mahumdad and conditional Bail:

In one incident before his handing over the charge the British authorities proposed to release Mohani provided he stayed within the boundaries of a certain house in Katthor in the district of Meerut (UP) and abided by all the rules and restrictions imposed on him under detain. However Maulana refused to accept any conditions imposed by the British authorities, giving the following writings:

"My conscience doesn't allow me to accept and follow these orders."

[As Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal argued](#) in court of the bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice NK Singh : " This is a highly patriotic statement,"

But what did Ali Khan Mahumdad get , a conditional bail which includes following conditions:

In addition to the terms and conditions that may be imposed by the

Chief Judicial Magistrate(Sonipat, Haryana), it is directed that:

(i) The petitioner shall not write any online post, article or shall not make any oral speech related to either of the two online posts, which are subject-matter of the investigation.

(ii) The Petitioner is also restrained from expressing any opinion in relation to the terrorist attack on Indian soil or the counter response given by our armed forces.

(iii) The petitioner is directed to surrender his passport before the Court of the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Sonipat.

(iv) The Director General of Police is directed to constitute the SIT within 24 hours. The petitioner shall join and fully cooperate with the investigation.

On terms of Support:

[As Sharjeel Imam said in his Speech:](#)

If they are not willing to accept our terms, then they are using us and our crowd, which is what they have done for the past 70 years. The time has come when we make clear to non-Muslims that, if they sympathize with us, they should stand with us on our terms. If they can't do that, they are not our sympathizers.

So here is very relevant and insightful incident from British era.

The labour party delegate Col. Wedgwood strongly opposed the resolution [Boycott of foreign goods and rejecting government job/institutions], warning the congress about the harmful consequences on the Same. He further asserted that congress would , thus create for its English supporters and colonel claimed that such a movement wouldn't succeed, that the police force would be after them. Besides

,he further argued that being under oath of loyalty to the empire, the advocates wouldn't be able to defend any case related to non-cooperation. He further claimed that this programme buried all logic and that congress should instead, include some positive program in this agenda.

In contemporary time we too have Wedgwood(s) read following [sentence\(s\) of Apoorvanand](#):

But he is wrong when he(Sharjeel Imam), says that non-Muslims should join the struggle against the law only if they "agree to our terms".

On violence:

I will put few points on this context.

1. While in civil disobedience Movement 55 people die and 400 injured then Gandhi called off Movement. On this Maulana strongly criticized Him.
1. Gandhi Condemned violence of Moplah upsurge while Maulana defended and justified. In results Gandhi criticized Mohani.
2. Hasrat reiterated that absence of violence is tactically and for time being. But if needed, he will to hesitate to go for (even)Guerrilla warfare.
3. Hasrat Mohani again reiterated at the Ahmadabad Congress session of 1921 that resort to violence on the ground that his religion allowed him to take to violence in case non-violence failed.